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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE PCT NATIONAL STAGE APPLICATION OF

Group Art Unit:

MARTIN MÜLLER ET AL.

Examiner:

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/EP

2004/050674

FILED: MAY, 3, 2004

FOR: BISMUTH-CONTAINING PIGMENT SOLID

SOLUTIONS

U.S. APPLICATION NO:

35 USC 371 DATE:

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Applicants respectfully submit the present Preliminary Amendment to place the instant claims in better condition for examination on their merits.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any necessary fee or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 03-1935.